

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5566 號六百五十五第 日八月九亥乙巳光

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 1876.

六月十英 港香 號六月十英 港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

October 14, GESIENA, Dutch schooner, 480, T. S. Mulder, Clevedon 7th October, General Agent, Ed. SCHELLHASS & Co.

Clearances.

At the BANQUET MASTER'S OFFICE, October 15th. China, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco.

Asia, str., for Saigon.

Japan, str., for Swatow.

Glenvalloch, str., for Yokohama.

Mecca, str., for Singapore, &c.

Pratichet, str., for Saigon.

Departures.

October 15, ARGONAUT, for Guan.

October 15, CHINA, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco.

October 15, MESSA, str., for Singapore and Penang.

October 15, ASTA, str., for Saigon.

October 15, PU-YEW, str., for Canton.

October 15, GLENVALLOCH, str., for Yokohama.

Passengers.

ARRIVED. Per Fu-yew, str., from Shanghai:— 30 Chinese.

DEPARTED. Per China, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco.

Per Yokohama.—One European, for San Francisco.—Mr. J. B. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Choy Yune and 427 Chinese.

Per Asia, str., for Saigon:— 1 Cabin and 150 Chinese.

Per Mecca, str., for Singapore:— 263 Chinese.

Per Glenvalloch, str., for Yokohama:— 10 Chinese.

Reports.

The Dutch schooner *Gesiena* reports left China on 7th October. Had light and fine weather the first four days. From the 11th to the 18th experienced a very bad storm from the N.E. in the Formosa Channel. From Tsing-tung to Swatow made the run in 24 hours under a lower fore-topsail. During the gale experienced a very high sea. The remainder of the passage had moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather.

The Chinese steamer *Fu-yew* reported left Shanghai on 10th October. Had a very bad rainy gale from the N.E. on the 13th experienced a very bad storm from the N.E. in the Formosa Channel. From Tsing-tung to Swatow made the run in 24 hours under a lower fore-topsail. During the gale experienced a very high sea. The remainder of the passage had moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Korea.

For last Month's Advice.

Per *China*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *Asia*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *Mecca*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *Glenvalloch*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *ASTA*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *PU-YEW*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *PHOENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.*, str., from Date of Arrival.

Per *CHARLES L. COOPER & CO.*, str., from Date of Arrival.

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Extracts.

THE PILGRIMS OF THE PLAINS.

BY JOAQUIN MILLER.

They climbed the rock-built crevices of earth,
The Titan-framed, bony slopes
The mountain-swept, the sun-burnt, the sun-baked,
The flat of white-thorn stars unfurled.
They looked about, they saw the birth
Of robes down upon a world,
Again they gazed; they saw the face
Of God, and named it boundless space.

And they descended and did roam,
Through levelled distance set round
By rocks. They saw the silence,
The hills at sunset, saw their forms,
And heard them fall like silent seas;
On unrued heights thick-blown and brown,
And torn like battlements of Mars;
They saw the darkness come down,
Like curtains drawn from the dome
Of God's cathedral, built of stone.

They saw the sawy mountains rolled
As when the hand of the handless had
Like scythes, bended, the world
Of sand-saints, saw the glass
Of hidden suns, and felt the hush
Of Heaven when the day set down,
And hid his face in dusky hands;
Then pitched the tent, where rivers ran
As if to follow the sun.

The long and lonesome night, the tent
That nestled soft in sweep of grass;
The stars, the firmament;
Where the sun and moon could pass;
The cautious camp, the smothered light;
The silent sentinel at night!

The wild birds flying from the hill;
The troubled earth bellowing;
The savage prancing by the spring,
The sudden passing swift and still,
And bended as a bow is bent,
The arrow east; the spear apart;
And buried in its bloody place,
The dead man lying on the face.

The clouds of dust, their cloud by day,
The pillar of smoke their fire;
The earth, the sun, the high, and higher—
They climbed so high it seemed Heaven;
They met the falling moon;

That like some flame-lit ruin by
Threw down before their weary way.

They learned to read the sign of storms,
The moon's wide circles, sunred bars,
And storm-provoking blood and flame;
And like the Chaldean shepherds came
At midnight to the stars;
In the horizon, scattered stars,
Of beats and tides of the sea;

And marked the Great Bear willy-

He up and drag his clinking chain

Of stars around the starry main.

N. Y. Independent.

SPIRIT RIFLE PRACTICE.
The papers contain an account of a so-called elaborate investigation of a materialised spirit, which recently took place at St. Louis. The medium was one W. C. Clark, who pretends that he has a hand of thirty-two disembodied spirits about him, some of which he can materialise by the odic or mesmeric force in him. During this materialisation, the medium was tied up in a closet, and the room darkened; when, after a little while, a curtain was withdrawn, exposing a part of the interior of the closet, in which then the ghost or materialised spirit was seen. As it was suspected that, in this case, the same kind of deception was employed as in the Katie King affair, namely, that a real person of flesh and blood acted the rôle of the spirit, it was suggested that a crucial test would be to fire at the spirit with a loaded musket, as a real spirit could not be hurt by such an experiment. Mr. Clark having asserted that his materialised spirits were no deceptions, but real spirits, and "could stand a test," he received from an able marksman the following formal challenge:—"St. Louis, Aug. 4, 1875.—Mr. Clark: Dear Sir.—Having attended a *stance* given by you, and having seen the wonderful materialisation, I will give you fifty dollars to produce one face at the aperture, if you will let me, or any person I may name, fire a shot at it with a rifle. If it is a spirit face it cannot hurt it, and it will satisfy me it is not you with a mark on your face. My conditions are that you will disrobe yourself and put on clothes I shall produce, and permit me to fasten you to the bottom of the cabinet." Yours respectfully, Henry Timkens." This was accepted by Mr. Clark. On the appointed evening, August 8, he was divested of all clothing, and other clothes brought by Mr. Timkens were put on him; he was tied down to the bottom of the cabinet by ropes passed through holes; a black curtain covered a window at which the ghost was to appear; the window was located on one side of the medium; the strings to open this curtain were placed within reach of Mr. Clark. The cabinet was closed and the lights turned down; and after a period of painful stillness, the medium asked the audience to sing, and they did so with a will. After they had finished several songs, a loud knocking was heard, which slowly became more gentle, and then ceased. After three quarters of an hour, during which nothing happened but an occasional spasmodic knock, a painful cry was heard in the cabinet, the black curtain was withdrawn, and a face appeared at the window. It was that of a girl with blue eyes and brown hair. The face was instantly seen by all present, and is described as having fixed features and other characteristics of a mask. "Fire," said the voice of Mr. Clark in the cabinet; and Mr. Timkens, who had before pointed his rifle at the centre of the window, pulled the trigger, and the ball passed through the face and lodged in the back partition of the cabinet; while the face remained at the window unmoved for about a minute, when it was concealed by the black curtain, which was drawn over the opening.

The account is very minute in details about the inspection of the cabinet, and the ropes with which the medium was tied; and it especially reports all which the latter said concerning his fatigue and the emanations from his own spirit and the other spirits he controls; but no means appear to have been taken to get hold of the mask, which was doubtless the thing used.

The same parties (the Holmes), who exhibited the Katie King materialisation in Philadelphia, were recently exposed in Brooklyn, where a company of spiritualists themselves found out the deceptive practised by masks, which were exhibited before a courted window, as at St. Louis. Such a mask, of course would not be hurt much by a ball; but there are other more scientific and refined methods of practising these deceptions, such as optical contrivances, which can be made to give images which are perfectly visible and totally intangible.

Any one who has seen the perfect illusions produced by the stereopticon, which is no thing but an improved magic lantern, or with the stereoscope, by which the perfect image of solid bodies may be thrown on smoke, vapour, or dust, can understand that the so-called materialisation trick can be easily performed by such means. Such an image falling on a black curtain is invisible, but on a white translucent smoke its resemblance to a real body is such that it is next to impossible to distinguish it, except by an investigation during the exhibition of the image, the investigator placing his head in the screen, and looking around to see where the machine is, from which the light forming the image proceeds.

Persons unacquainted with these, and similar resources of physical science, which are increased in number and improved almost daily, are of course, utterly incompetent to investigate the means by which tricks of this kind are practised, and their conclusions as to the absence of any deception are of no account whatsoever. The above is only one of many illustrations of cases where the nature of the deceptions remain un-discovered, simply from the deficiency of knowledge and acuteness of those witnessing the performance.—*Scientific American.*

MR. GLADSTONE'S MOTHER.

In one of Sir Frederic Murchison's journals the following notice occurs:—"John Gladstone's wife was the dearest friend of Henry Leo says—'So far as barnacles were concerned, I had been sent as completer on a wild-goose chase as if I had gone in quest of the "barnacle geese" of which the said cirripedes were once supposed to be the embryonic form.' There were certainly traces of a few barnacles (*Balanus tintinnans*, apparently) near the level of the water line, especially about the sternpost and between it and the rudder; and the latter itself, as well as the rest of the hull usually submerged, was, and with an enormous multitude of mussels, clustered together in one dense and continuous deposit, extending over a surface of 32,000 square feet of iron plates, and in some parts six inches thick. Mr. Beckwith had made a calculation, which I was able to verify with him, of the total weight of the mussels thus accumulated. It was found by careful experiment that the average weight of those on each square foot was from 12 lb. to 13 lb.; therefore the vessel was encumbered with less than three hundred tons of which the lady had been unwilling to leave. 'Grace,' said he, 'we have been untiring knots. Let us see if we cannot tie one which will not untie in a lifetime.' With a piece of tape he fastened half a true lover's knot, Miss Fletcher perched it, and I tied the seal to the symbolical bargain. Most men when they 'pop' by writing are more straightforward and matter-of-fact. Richard Steele wrote to the lady of his heart—'Dear Mistress 'Soubi' (there were no misses in those days), "I am tired of calling you by that name; therefore say a day when you will take that of madam. Your devoted, humble servant, Richard Steele.' She fixed the day accordingly, and Steele her name instead of her heart to the spire. The well-known brothers, Jacob and William Grimm, were much attached to each other, and had no desire to be married.

But it was thought proper by their friends that one of them should become a husband, and Jacob being the elder, it was agreed that he should be the one to enter the bonds of matrimony. A suitable lady was found, but Jacob declined to do the curtaining, requesting William to act as his agent. William consented, but soon found he was in love, and wanted the lady himself. He could not think, however, of depriving his brother of such a treasure, and knew not how to act. An aunt delivered him from his difficulty by telling Jacob who willingly resigned the damsel, and went out of the way until she had been made Mrs. William Grimm.

THE SENSE OF HUMOR IN BRUTES.
Several years ago I used to watch carefully the young orang-outang at the Zoological Gardens, and I am quite sure that she manifested a sense of the ludicrous. Our English Henry, it appears, considered critically, was rather an affectionate husband than otherwise; and all the crudities imputed to Mary of England, the naughtiness attributed to Mary of Scotland, the pimpernel associated with the name of Catherine de Medici by M. Du Masse, the treacheries laid to the charge of Napoleon by Sir Walter Scott, and the posterity of Jeffreys himself, or even Scrooge, may hope for a reversal of the historical, attaining a thing all the more possible in an age which despises that Joan of Arc was ever burnt at all; that William Tell ever existed; that an Emperor ever picked up Titian's paint; that Ravallian assassinated Henry IV, and that Queen Eleanor ever poisoned my Rosemary Clifford. Allowing all this, it must be asked whether no statute of limitations with reference to the dead is to be recognised? Whether special damage should be proved? Thus, it is helious to accuse Janus in re: "a too powerful and dangerous minister." Swift in his universal slanders on mankind, an American author on Byron, Shelley on Shelley, Haydon on Hazlitt—whom he called "a singular mixture of friend and fiend"—or Macaulay on "Sir Blyth Impy?" Thus, again, in the injury pleaded to be limited to cases like these? Sir Nathaniel Wrenall, in his Memoirs, that the Empress Catherine of Russia, and the Duke of Wurtemberg—both being dead when the second edition of the *calumny* appeared—of conspiring to poison the Duke's first wife, Augusta of Prussia. Were the representatives of George Nassau, Charleroi, disengaged, in consequence of the posthumous aspersions that he was a man "viciously depraved"? A Jux said yes—*de l'absolu favorite*, as the clerk of the court put it. The article, it was declared, published in the *World* of that day, "invited to restoration." The *équites Allobroges* and *Veneti* belong to a category altogether different. In the one, the *Chavale de la Barre* was converted, innocently of mutilating a critic's order of service, and if ridiculed when unsuccessful, was evidently much annoyed. On one occasion, in order to see what he could do, I purposely laughed immoderately every time he failed. It so happened that he did so several times in succession—partly, I believe, in consequence of my laughing—and eventually he became so disengaged that he positively prodded to catch the fly, going through all the appropriate actions with his lip and tongue, and afterward rubbing the ground with his nose as if to kill the victim; then looked up at me with a triumphant air of success. So well was the process simulated, that I should have been quite deceived, had I not seen that the fly was still upon the window. Accordingly, I drew his attention to this fact, as well as to the absence of anything upon the door; and when he saw that his hypocrisy had been detected, he slunk away under some furniture, evidently very much ashamed of himself.—Nature.

THE ARAB BIBLE.
To form a judgment on Mohammed we must read his book, *Al Koran*. To that no he appealed, when asked to produce miracles as a sign of his mission; to that the Arab point, to-day, is a standing miracle, defying the world to produce it equal. We are told by all Arabs that the Koran is the most perfect poetry in the Arabic language; and yet when we come to read it as translated into English, we find it dull and tedious. It is a difficult thing for a European to read through the whole Koran in translation. He soon sees how it is to be different from what he imagined it. Very possibly he dreamt of finding therein long and lucid descriptions of the so-called "Mahomedan paradise," that he should find about hours, and the tree of life, the banyan, the river of wine, and all those visions of the different heavens usually attributed to the prophet. He finds not a word of all this. Instead, there is boundless devotional enthusiasm, all the vocables of praise to God, long moral lectures, Old Testament stories in a different form, a familiar reference to all the Arab patriarchs, prophets, and kings, an equally constant reference to the facts of the Gospel; but in a somewhat different dress, finally fierce denunciations in a strain of the most awful solemnity, of the infidels who do not believe in the truth of God. Of course he finds no subtlety. Mohammed pretends that one fact, and reiterates it for all time. As the Koran begins with Al-Fatihah: "The Preface," so it naturally closes with the simple and sublime "Declaration," a chapter of itself. The words of those who have not read it, are both for all the rest of book. It enlarges, amplifies, and refutes, in a grand and detailed manner, the *Al-Ikhlas* of "No God but God." All the rest is written only to give that weight. The fact that Mohammed is the prophet of God is a mere incident, like the "Thus saith the Lord" of the Hebrew prophets. It is to show whence came the message. That the message is the truth of the promises to man, is it not the simplest? "No God." When that messenger is believed, the morality of the Koran follows with equal simplicity. Prayer and charity are the whole duty of man. Not prayer as an importunate begging for favours, but one which is only a duty and anxiety to be kept in the faith of God; not charity as giving, misnamed charity, but a charity as complete and "genuine" as that described in the *Corinthians*. Such as we find Al-Fatihah, we find the whole book.—The Galaxy.

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Established 1830.

The attention ofgentlemen is invited to the following announcement of the best quality, now in general use throughout England, India, and the Colonies.

Joyce's TRAM & WIRE-CLOTH, ALLOY-STEEL, &c.

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ALL OF SUPERIORITY QUALITY.

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Fresh supplies of the above and numerous other cold delicacies always in stock for your inspection.

CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of rolling the bottles of wax with native productions, they should **inserted** to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

Every Cask is sealed with *Chase's & Blackwell's*.

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At the Paris Exhibition of 1867, THREE PRIZE MEDALS, and at Vienna 1873, TWO GRAND MEDALS were awarded to *Chase's & Blackwell* for the marked superiority of their production.

[1875, 990 June 26]

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Described by Commissaries to be THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE.

In consequence of various imitations of *Lea* and *Pebbins' SAUCE*, which are calculated to deceive the Public, *Lea* and *Pebbins* have adopted A NEW & IMPROVED FORMULA.

LEA & PEBBINS' SAUCE.

which will be placed on every bottle of *Worcestershire Sauce*, after this date, and when none is genuine.

November 1874.

This does not apply to elements made prior to the date given.

Ask for *LEA & PEBBINS' SAUCE*, and see Name on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

Widely and Export by the Proprietors,

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Agents: W. Watson & Co., Hongkong. (1875)

1875 Agents: W. Watson & Co., Hongkong. (1875)